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ABSTRACT

The Arab world holds a storied place in western history and is a significant area today culturally, economically, and politically, with its more than 190 million people sharing a common heritage with the West. The Arab world merits serious study in U.S. schools; however, it is often misrepresented in U.S. textbooks. This notebook is written as an antidote to what are believed to be inaccuracies and distortions in the presentation of the Arab world to secondary level students. The notebook consists of three parts. Part 1 contains 20 subject areas, each presented in 4 parts: (1) an introductory "Essay"; (2) a "Reading" that may be represented by a document, graph or chart, as well as by a first person account; (3) a "Lesson Plan" for the classroom; and (4) a listing of audio-visual or print "Resources" for further study or enrichment. Part 2 features 21 country entries, each presented with: (1) a detailed map; (2) a blank map; (3) a data profile of that country; and (4) resources--audio-visual materials as well as addresses of embassies, consulates, and other organizations and institutions providing helpful information resources. Part 3 of the notebook contains guidelines for analysis of textbook coverage of the Arab world and of Islam, so that teachers and their students might use their own critical thinking skills to do an analysis of the course textbook they are using. (DB)

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